

Easter Seals Ontario
99th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Thursday, June 10, 2021 @ 4:30 pm
Virtual Meeting
MINUTES

Voting Delegates and Members of the Corporation

Voters – Represented in Person

John M. Herhalt	Kevin Kelly	Shireen Preksta	Jessica Metcalfe
Mark Fisher	Gino DeVuona	Michael Carli	Debbie Kerley
Frank Squizzato			

Voters – Represented by Proxy

David Lynn Hollingsworth	Heather Hunter	Brad Hutchinson	Danielle Domelle
Bruce Dodds	Casey MacKay	Ryan Cruwys	Barb Gray
Carol Cook	Pieriette Levesque	Charles Coupal	Edith Swan
Kelly Lind	Judith A. McDonald	Scott Morrison	

Guests in Attendance

Alexa Braun	Drew Moyer	Logan Pickells	Rob Wojtasik
Andrea Peterson	Eugenio DeVuono	Lukas Stodola	Robert A. Simms
Andrew Jackson	Frank Squizzato	Manya Nayak	Ryan Smolkin
Barry Mount	Graham Baskin	Marc Henein	Sebastian Di Giovanni
Benjamin Mandigo	Ian MacIsaac	Maria Collins	Sherry Caldwell
Bill Gerard	Ian McLaughlin	Michael Grochmal	Sinthu Vannan
Bob Steadman	Ian Steadman	Michael Hall	Stace Law
Bradley Hutchinson	Ipek Kabatas	Manya Nayak	Steven Raby
Brenda Agnew	Jasmine Zhou	Michael Karaoulis	Terry Baskin
Britney Raby	Jeffrey Man	Michele Dawson	
Cheryl Ferguson	Drew Moyer	Michelle Collier	
Courtney Raby	Jennifer Buchanan	Mike Tzimas	
Daniella Altieri	Jennifer La Forge	Murray Solski	
Dave Duggan	Jonathan L.	Michele Dawson	
Dave Starrett	Joshua LeBlanc	Paolo Ciotola	
David Newcombe	Josie Dye	Patrick Brown, Mayor	
Dean Bell	Joshua LeBlanc	Peter Allemang	
Deanne Buckle	Kelly Lind	Peter Bocking	
Debbie Kerley	Kelly Stacey	Peter Scully	
Dr. Paul Truelove	Kim Mugford	Rebbeka Raby	

Staff in Attendance

Kevin J. Collins	Andrea Peterson	Alison Morse	Sebeena Bhikhari
Travis Sargeant	Charlene Myke	Ana Maria Da Costa	Sara Mirza
Meredith Wiens	Jessica Riddell	Canute Chin	Stephen Whitehouse
Mike Duffy	Linda Clouthier	Erica Vanclief	Rhonda Ruetz
Jeremy Renaud	Coralie Jacobs	Kayley Trumbley	Joanne Scott
Joey Wilson	Carmen Bazinet	Krishna Parks	Lorna Manarin
Stacey Law	Carolyn O'Connor	Lauren Squizzato	Susan Smith
Rhonda Harrison	Robyn Visheau	Erin Rogers	Kate Goodfellow

1. Call to Order

John Herhalt, Chair of the Board of Directors, called the 99th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Award Ceremony to order at 4:32 pm, and welcomed all those in attendance.

2. Notice of Meeting

The Chair advised that a copy of the Notice of the Meeting had been distributed in accordance with the By-Laws. A copy of the Notice of the Meeting, together with a Statutory Declaration of its distribution was placed before the meeting.

3. Declaration of Quorum

The Chair confirmed quorum and declared the meeting to be regularly called and properly constituted for the transaction of business.

4. Approval of the Minutes of June 11, 2020

A copy of the minutes of the AGM held June 11, 2020 were made available to all members of Easter Seals Ontario (ESO).

Moved: Deanne Buckle

Seconded: Kevin Kelly

THAT the minutes of the 98th Annual General Meeting of members held on June 11, 2020 be taken as read, verified as correct and approved as presented. **CARRIED**

5. Presentation of Financial Statements and Appointment of Auditor

The Chair presented and placed before the meeting a copy of the Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2020 and the Auditor's Report. Copies of the Financial Statements were made available and published on the ESO website.

Moved: Mark Fisher

Seconded: Paola Ciotola

THAT Grant Thornton, Chartered Accountants be appointed Auditors of Easter Seals Ontario for a third, 3-year term commencing June 10, 2021 and ending at the 2024 Annual General Meeting, at a remuneration to be fixed by the Directors, the Directors being hereby authorized to fix such remuneration. **CARRIED**

6. Election of Directors

The Chair noted that of the current slate of officers, the terms of five Directors expires this year, including his own position.

- Gino DeVuono, Debbie Kerley, Frank Squizzato and Dr. Paul Truelove were thanked for their outstanding service to ESO and the children and families served.

Moved: Kevin Kelly

Seconded: Michael Carli

THAT Paolo Ciotola hold office for a second, 3-year term and that Brenda Agnew, Michael Grochmal, Marc Henein, Jennifer LaForge, Jeffrey Man, Jessica (Jess) Metcalfe and Michael Tzimas hold office for a first, 3-year term expiring at the June 2024 AGM in accordance with the By-Laws. **CARRIED**

The Easter Seals Ontario complete Slate of Directors for the 2021-2022 term is:

Brenda Agnew	Paolo Ciotola	Deanne Buckle	Michael Carli
Mark Fisher	Michael Grochmal	Marc Henein	Kevin Kelly
Jennifer LaForge	Jeffrey Man	Jess Metcalfe	Michael Tzimas
Alex Yeh	John Herhalt (<i>ex-officio</i>)		

7. Report of the Chair of the Board of Directors

John Herhalt, the Chair of the Board of Directors gave his remarks:

- 2020 was a year of tragedy and challenges due to Covid-19 and the vulnerable sector, including those we serve who were faced with tremendous daily, physical and emotional stressors.
- As a charitable organization, ESO undertook a number of initiatives to combat the negative and restrictive measures imposed as a result of the pandemic.
- ESO ended 2020 with revenues over expenditures of \$453K despite a material decline in revenue of \$2.6M over 2019.
- \$300K has been set aside to support the Equipment Funding Program and \$153K to support the Recreation Program in 2021.
- A decline in fundraising and event revenue of almost \$3M was realized due to the inability to run in-person events due to Covid; this decrease was offset by \$1.5M in government grants received through the Community Emergency Wage Subsidy and the Emergency Community Support Fund. Our gratitude is extended to the Government of Canada for this support.
- Service expenditures declined by \$1.8M mainly resulting from the inability to operate traditional in-person camp programs and fundraising and administrative costs also declined by approximately \$1M.
- Expenditures to support programs, public education and awareness represented 63% of our yearly expenses; fundraising expenses made up 29% and Management/Administrative costs were 8%.
- Rigorous internal controls resulted in ESO receiving an unqualified audit opinion from auditors, Grant Thornton.
- Appreciation was noted for the following:
 - All donors, sponsors, service clubs, volunteers and supporters for their generosity and commitment;
 - staff for their perseverance and efforts;
 - volunteer Directors for their personal commitment and leadership and
 - special acknowledgement to each member of the Audit and Executive Committees for their extraordinary dedication, guidance and leadership that ensured financial stability of ESO.

8. Report of the President and CEO

Kevin Collins, President and CEO also acknowledged the trials and tribulations of 2020, and noted that:

- As a result of Covid-related closures, the receipt of mobility and accessibility equipment at home was delayed and ESO received far fewer requests for the Equipment Funding Program than in previous years.
- 611 requests for equipment totalling \$1,085,300 were funded in 2020, with a large percentage of year-end surplus being set aside to assist with the anticipated influx of requests expected once the economy restarts.
- Since the beginning of the stay-at-home order in March 2020, a group of devoted staff continued to work in the office to ensure that services to clients was maintained.

- One of the most difficult decisions resulting from the pandemic was to suspend our in-person camping program for the first time in 84 years however in recognizing that campers needed connection and stimulation during this challenging time, Camp E-aster Seals, an innovative platform to run camps online was created. Due to Camp E-aster Seals' success, the program was carried through fall and winter and will now be year-round as part of our Recreation Program. In total, the camp team provided 1,639 remote camper experiences in 2020.
- Advocacy, an increased area of focus saw staff participating on various committees, meeting with government officials and leading a team of 25 volunteer Special Education Advisory Committee members who represent the needs of children with physical disabilities on school boards across the province. Collectively, this team attended over 200 meetings in 2020 to advocate for these children.
- With so much on hold for the better part of the year, we took advantage of the situation and instituted the following initiatives:
 - Reorganized the Services Department and sourced a new client database to streamline operations and create efficiencies in record management and services;
 - Upgraded our systems and technology to create more efficiencies across the organization;
 - Provided an extensive training program for Development staff to unify fundraising practices and approach across the province with a focus on donor engagement and community partnerships;
 - Put in place plans to review our fundraising programs with a focus on long-term sustainability; and
 - Plans to expand the use of digital and social media platforms to generate awareness and support.
- While 2020 started off successfully event-wise, the lock down in March took its toll when in-person events were cancelled or postponed however staff resiliency and their ability to pivot helped to successfully raise both funds and awareness with events like 21 Times Challenge, Camp-to-Camp virtual run/walk, a Butter Tart Tour as well as raffles and online auctions.
- Eric Lindros, the team at Jackson Events and our Development staff championed the Celebrity Hockey Classic to raise over \$660K virtually which benefited Easter Seals kids, especially during these trying times.
- Direct Mail donors were incredibly generous with overall revenue that exceeded 2019.
- The following were given gratitude and praise:
 - Rotary and Service Clubs, Century 21, We Care Canada and all donors, sponsors and volunteers for their continued generosity amidst economic uncertainty;
 - Staff for their efforts that embodied our Core Values: Being Bold, Stronger Together, Be a Champion and Make a Difference;
 - Volunteer Board Directors for their expertise and assistance; and
 - The Audit Committee for their perseverance and leadership.

Finally, the President and CEO noted that there is great excitement regarding ESO's 100th Anniversary in 2022 and all involved are confident that we will emerge stronger and more resilient, post-pandemic.

Introduction of Incoming Board Chair, Kevin Kelly

Kevin Kelly provided a brief introduction of his history with ESO and thanked outgoing Chair, John Herhalt on behalf of the Board and staff, for his extraordinary leadership, wise counsel and distinguished service. The incoming Chair officially welcomed the new Board members, noting it is an exciting time to join ESO with the upcoming 100th Anniversary.

9. Question Period/New Business

John Herhalt, the Chair, opened the floor to questions and comments.

- No new business was brought forward and there were no questions.

10. Adjournment of the 99th Annual General Meeting

Moved: Frank Squizzato

Seconded: Debbie Kerley

THAT the 99th Annual General Meeting of Easter Seals be adjourned.

CARRIED

- The business portion of the meeting was concluded.
- The meeting adjourned at 4:57pm.

11. Introduction of Provincial Ambassadors

The Chair introduced the 2020/21 Provincial Ambassadors Danielle Altieri and Dante Wellington who spoke briefly about the past year as ESO Ambassadors. The Chair thanked them for being outstanding representatives during a very unusual year.

12. 2020 Scholarship Presentation and Volunteer Awards

Hosted by President and CEO, Kevin Collins:

(*denotes recipients present)

Recipient

Graham Baskin*

Joshua LeBlanc*

Tyler Preece*

Kayla Milewski

Manya Nayak*

Logan Pickells*

Jonathan Lu*

Michael Karaoulis*

Sebastian Di Giovanna*

Ian Steadman*

Jared Wieclawek

Scholarship Received

Hira Scholarship & David and Shelley Scholarship

Hira Scholarship

Truelove Dell Scholarship

John Domenic Caggiula Memorial Scholarship &

Yvonne and Eddie Maybee Memorial Scholarship

Kevin and Kristy Kelly Scholarship & Easter Seal Scholarship

Board of Directors Scholarship

Easter Seals Scholarship

Easter Seals Scholarship

Easter Seals Scholarship & Ursula Carsen Scholarship

Easter Seals Scholarship

B.J. Roth Scholarship & Future Leader Award

Recipient

Gino DeVuono*

Frank Squizzato*

Dr. Paul Truelove

Debbie Kerley*

Mayor Patrick Brown*, City of Brampton

Andrew Jackson*, Jackson Events

Drew Moyer*, Bear Creek Golf Club

Artistica Ballroom Dance Studio

Bill Brandel, Ingram Micro Inc.

Cheryl Ferguson*

Dean Bell*

Volunteer Service Award Received

Outgoing Board Member

Outgoing Board Member

Outgoing Board Member

Outgoing Board Member

Service Award

Service Award

Service Award

Service Award

Service Award

Service Award

Service Award

Kim Mugford*	Service Award
Brian North	Service Award
Jennifer Buchanan*	Service Award
Bradley Hutchinson*	Service Award
Steve Raby*	Service Award
Rob Wojtasik*	Service Award
Barry Mount*, HMA The Benefits People	Spirit of Giving Award
Jim Bouchard, East Penn Canada	Spirit of Giving Award
Rob Simms*, Jiffy Lube	Award of Distinction
Agnes Faraci	Award of Distinction
Josie Dye*	Award of Distinction
Erica Vanclief*	Ruby Award
Dave Duggan*, Nurse Chevrolet Cadillac	Diamond Creative Altruism Award
Bill Girard*	Yvonne Alexander Award

13. Closing Remarks

The President and CEO thanked all those present for attending the meeting.

John M. Herhalt
Chair, Board of Directors